

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10556 281710Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 281609Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2688

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10556

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: ASEC, CSCE, UR, NL

SUBJECT: LEAK OF EMBASSY CABLE

REF: A. THE HAUGE 3733 B. THE HAGUE 3408

1. THE "CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM" PUBLISHED IN JULY 26 ISSUE OF THE DUTCH MAGAZINE ELSEVEIERS IS CLEARLY A SUMMARY, WITH IMPORTANT DISTORTIONS, OF MOSCOW 5822 OF APRIL 25. THE CABLE WAS CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL.

2. THE HAGUE WAS NOT AN ADDRESSEE, THOUGH SEVERAL OTHER POSTS IN WESTERN EUROPE WERE AND WE BELIEVE IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY MADE AVAILABLE TO NATO. THE FACT THAT THE CABLE WAS WRITTEN IN APRIL, WHEN MANY IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF CSCE WERE STILL UNDER NEGOTIATION, IS NOT REFLECTED IN THE ELSEVIERS VERSION. LATTER VERSION INSTEAD PRESENTS THE CABLE AS BEING A FINAL ASSESSMENT ON EVE OF THE HELSINKI SUMMIT, AND THIS IS ONE OF THE MAIN SOURCES OF DISTORTION. ALSO, THE ORIGINAL CABLE DID DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE ADVANTAGES OF DELAYING COMPLETION OF CSCE IN ORDER TO BRING PRESSURE ON THE SOVIETS ON PORTUGAL, BUT DREW CONCLUSION THAT SHORT OF A DRASTIC DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION IN LISBON SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD PROBABLY BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. IT DID NOT, AS SUGGESTED BY PUBLISHED VERSION AS REFLECTED IN PARA 3 REFTTEL, SUGGEST THAT SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION BE UNDERTAKEN.

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3. I REGRET THAT FOR THE SECOND TIME IN ONE WEEK I MUST EXPRESS MY DISTRESS AT SEEING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION EITHER OBTAINED IN MOSCOW (REF B) OR GENERATED BY THE EMBASSY ITSELF (THE ELSEVIERS PUBLICATION) DISPLAYED IN THE PUBLIC PRESS. SUCH LEAKS FORCE US TO INCREASE CLASSIFICATION AND REDUCE DISTRIBUTION ON OUR OUTGOING MESSAGES, CONSEQUENTLY NARROWING THE CIRCLE OF CONSUMERS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO OUR PRODUCTION.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW10556
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750259-1119
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750716/aaaaaoff.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 THE HAGUE 3733, 75 THE HAGUE 3408
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEAK OF EMBASSY CABLE
TAGS: ASEC, UR, NL, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006